## CLAIMS

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1. A system comprising:

a plurality of content providers coupled to a network; and

one or more publication agents, coupled to the network, to issue one or more requests for content from select content providers at a time(s) appropriate to the content requested upon receipt of a publication profile.

2. A system according to claim 1, wherein the publication profile minimally denotes a time for publication.

3. A system according to claim 1, wherein the publication profile denotes a publication location.

4. A system according to claim 1, wherein the publication profile is associated with a recipient of the publication, denoting a time for publication, where to send the requested content, requested publication format(s), and a type(s) of content requested.

5. A system according to claim 1, wherein the types of content requested include media types including, but not limited to, audio content, video content, graphical content, textual content and the like.

6. A system according to claim 1, wherein the publication agent(s) read a received publication request to identify one or more of a publication time, desired content, and/or desired format of the publication.

7. A system according to claim 6, wherein the publication agent(s) issue content request(s) to content providers based, at least in part, on the publication time and time-sensitive nature of the desired content.

8. A system according to claim 7, content request(s) for time-sensitive content are issued close to the time of publication, whereas content request(s) for other content are issued upon receipt of the publication profile.

9. A system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a formatting engine, coupled to the network, to receive content from the content providers and dynamically compile the publication.

10. A system according to claim 9, wherein the formatting engine is located at a point of publication.

11. A system according to claim 10, wherein the point of publication is a computing system associated with a recipient of the publication.

12. A system according to claim 9, wherein the formatting engine issues the publication profile to the publication agent(s).

13. A system according to claim 12, wherein the formatting engine broadcasts the publication profile on the network, for reception by at least a subset of the publication agents coupled to the network.

14. A system according to claim 12, wherein the publication profile includes an address for the formatting agent.

15. A system according to claim 9, wherein the formatting engine receives content from the publication agent(s) up until the point of publication and incorporates the newly received content into a dynamically modifiable format of the publication for presentation to the recipient.

16. A system according to claim 15, wherein the formatting engine dynamically modifies the format of the publication to reflect the received content and format preferences identified in the publication profile.

17. A system according to claim 9, wherein one or more of the publication agent(s) is also a formatting agent.

18. A system according to claim 9, wherein the formatting agent is also a publication agent.

19. A system according to claim 1, wherein the publication agent(s) cache responses to content requests to satisfy subsequent publication profiles requesting similar content.

20. A system according to claim 1, wherein the publication agent(s) pre-fetch and cache content to selectively place in subsequent publications.

21. A system according to claim 1, wherein the publication agent(s) perform at least an initial formatting of the received content in accordance with publication format preferences denoted in the publication profile.

22. A method comprising:

issuing a request for content including a publication profile to a plurality of content providers at a time reflective of the dynamic nature of the requested content; and

receiving content from at least a subset of the plurality of content providers based, at least in part, on the publication profile, wherein the content received from each of the content providers is received at a time reflective of the dynamic nature of the content.

23. A method according to claim 22, wherein the publication profile includes a time for publication.

24. A method according to claim 22, wherein the publication profile includes information denoting content of interest to a requesting user.

25. A method according to claim 22, further comprising:

performing an initial formatting of the retrieved content based, at least in part, on preferences denoted in the publication profile.

26. A method according to claim 22, further comprising:

sending the retrieved content to a formatting engine for integration and publication for the requesting user.

27. A method according to claim 22, further comprising:

integrating the retrieved content into a publication; and

sending the publication to a requesting user and/or community.

28. A method according to claim 22, further comprising:

caching retrieved content to satisfy subsequent publication requests for similar content.

29. A method according to claim 22, further comprising:

pre-fetching content from one or more of the plurality of content providers, irrespective of received publication requests;

caching the pre-fetched content; and

opportunistically sending the pre-fetched content to requesting user for integration within a publication.